

Medical Home for Coordinated Pediatrics (MHCP) Clinic

In collaboration with the University of Kentucky, CSHCN maintains a primary pediatric care clinic staffed by professionals familiar with the unique culture of foster care. An array of assessment and care provision/coordination services are available on an as-needed basis to children in the child welfare system.

Comprehensive primary care includes:

- Well-child checks;
- Immunizations;
- Developmental assessments;
- Referral and coordination of specialty care; and
- Care for common childhood illnesses.

For a complete listing of eligibility criteria and more information, please contact:

Dr. Tom Pinkstaff, or Susan Noel, ARNP
at (859) 252-3170 or (800) 817-3874.

For more information, call the CSHCN Foster Care Support Branch, the CSHCN office, or the Nurse Consultant (NCI) nearest you.

Foster Care Support Branch
(800) 232-1160

Darlene Cain, ext. 293 or Mike Weinrauch ext. 250

Ashland
(606) 929-9155
NCI - Shanna Thompson
(606) 784-6687

Barbourville
(606) 546-5109
NCI - Lesia Tedders
(606) 677-4086, ext. 242

Bowling Green
(270) 746-7816
NCI - Ashley DeJarnette
(270) 746-7447 ext. 247

Covington
NCI - Diane Glenn
(859) 292-6340, ext 412

Elizabethtown
(270) 765-6982
NCI - Gency Fowler
(502) 543-7081, ext 303

Hazard
(606) 435-6167
NCI - Dinah Thornsberry
(606) 435-6060

Hopkinsville
(270) 889-6047
NCI - Mary Thompson
(270) 575-7105, ext 121

Lexington
(859) 252-3170
NCI - Gayle Bourne
(859)245-5456, ext 685

Louisville
(502) 595-4459
NCI - Donna Doyle
(502) 595-4493

Morehead
(606) 783-8610
NCI - Shanna Thompson
(606) 783-8545 ext. 38

Owensboro
(270) 687-7038
NCI - Ashley DeJarnette
(270) 746-7447, ext 247

Paducah
(270) 443-3651
NCI - Mary Thompson
(270) 575-7105, ext 121

Prestonsburg
(606) 889-1761
NCI - Dinah Thornsberry
(606) 435-6060

Somerset
(606) 678-4454
NCI - Lesia Tedders
(606) 677-4086, ext. 242

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Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs



Foster Care Support Branch



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CCSHCN Foster Care Support Branch

Foster care support branch represents a collaboration between the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN) and the Kentucky Department of Community Based Services (DCBS). The goal is to provide medical and health-care expertise for children involved with the child welfare system. Programs ensure the immediate, ongoing, and preventative health of these vulnerable children.

Foster care support programs evolved in 2005 as local partnerships mobilized to respond to the needs of children in the child welfare system. The Foster Care Support Branch was established within the commission shortly thereafter to guide innovative programs on behalf of foster children.



Medically Fragile Foster Care Program

In this program, licensed registered nurses from one of CCSHCN's 14 regional offices serve as consultants to foster parents and the assigned social service worker of any child determined to be "medically fragile".

Joint monthly home visits are made by the DCBS social service worker and the assigned CCSHCN nurse. The nurse assists the social service worker and the family with identified medical issues; provides education, counseling and support; coordinates care with the child's primary care provider; and serves as an advocate for the child.

Over 150 Kentucky children are designated "medically fragile" by the Department for Community Based Services (DCBS). These children have chronic illnesses or medical conditions that may become unstable and change abruptly and/or require specialized services and support. In coordination with social service workers and the other members of the child's Medically Fragile service team, CCSHCN nurses assist with the development and ongoing evaluation of the child's Individual Health Plan.

Foster Care Support Program

Originally developed as an expansion of the Medically Fragile Foster Care Program, the Foster Care Support Program has stationed full-time CCSHCN nurse consultants in each of the nine DCBS service regions across the state. Nurse consultants are available to all DCBS social service workers at any time for matters concerning children in or at risk of out of home placement, not just those determined to be "medically fragile". At any given time, there are over 7,000 children in out of home care, in addition to those at risk for out of home care status within the child welfare system.

CCSHCN Nurse Consultants can provide:

- Consultation to social service workers, foster care and biological families on medical issues;
- Interpretation of medical reports and records;
- Education to families and social service workers on medical issues;
- Assurance of updated health histories and assistance with access to primary care physicians;
- Enhanced care coordination of all services to include physical, dental and behavioral health services; and
- Tracking of the utilization of all health services including prevention and wellness programs.